



Assembly

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Decision of the Assembly regarding the interim report of the first periodic review of the international regime of the Area pursuant to article 154 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

Recalling article 154, part XI, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,¹

Recalling also its decision of 24 July 2015 at the twenty-first session of the International Seabed Authority,²

Taking note of the interim report by Seascope Consultants Limited dated 15 May 2016,³ the comments of the Review Committee,⁴ the comments of the Legal and Technical Commission,⁵ the comments of the Finance Committee⁶ and the comments of the secretariat,⁷

Taking note also of the oral report by the Chair of the Review Committee and the deliberations of the Assembly under agenda item 9, entitled “Consideration of the interim report of the review committee established pursuant to the decision of the Assembly (ISBA/21/A/9/Rev.1) to oversee the periodic review of the international regime of the Area pursuant to article 154 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”,

Expressing its appreciation for the timely submission of the interim report, and taking note of the work performed by the consultants and the Review Committee,

1. *Decides* to provide States parties, observers and stakeholders, in the light of the aforementioned comments and deliberations, a further opportunity to submit written observations on the interim report, and the comments thereto, before

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

² ISBA/21/A/9/Rev.1.

³ ISBA/22/A/CRP.3(1).

⁴ ISBA/22/A/CRP.3(2).

⁵ ISBA/22/A/CRP.3(3).

⁶ ISBA/22/A/CRP.3(4).

⁷ ISBA/22/A/CRP.3(5).



15 October 2016, including, if they had not done so, to reply to the questionnaire drawn up by Seascope Consultants Limited;

2. *Requests* the Review Committee to entrust Seascope Consultants Limited with the production of a revised interim report, taking into account the observations made in the Assembly at the twenty-second session of the International Seabed Authority, as well as any other comments received under paragraph 1 above, before 15 January 2017;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate, from within existing resources, in 2017, meetings of the Review Committee and the finalization of the report of the article 154 review;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the draft final report, as approved by the Review Committee, to States parties and observers before 15 April 2017.

160th meeting
21 July 2016
